

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rep. Dean Knudson, Member, Joint Finance Committee

Rep. John Nygren, Co-Chair, Joint Finance Committee

March 18th, 2015 (608) 266-1526 (608) 266-2343

Knudson, Nygren Announce Changes To UW System Proposal

BRILLION—Today, Rep. Dean Knudson (R-Hudson) and Joint Finance Co-Chair John Nygren (R-Marinette) announced their plan to continue responsible reform of the UW System. These plans include:

Smaller, More Manageable Cut

We will work toward a smaller, more manageable cut instead of the \$300 million cut proposed in the Governor's budget.

Retain Legislative Control - No Public Authority

Governor Walker's innovative proposal to spin off the University of Wisconsin System into a public authority would have granted freedom, flexibility and independence to university administrators. However, it is clear from their response that the Regents, Chancellors and university administrators are not ready for this level of independence. We believe the legislature must maintain control and supervision over the university system. While some additional flexibilities may be warranted, the University System is not ready to become a public authority.

Tuition Increase For Out-of-state, Graduate Students

There should be an increase in tuition on out-of-state and graduate students. The tuition freeze for in-state undergraduates should continue for another two years.

Spend Down Reserves

The Legislature should require the University System to further spend down its accumulated surpluses.